

MINUTES

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Board Room, Community Design Studio
7506 East Indian School Road
May 12, 2005
5:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Ed Wimmer, Chair
B.J. Gonzales, Vice-Chair
Nancy Dallett
George Hartz
Kathy Howard
Lisa Loss (arrived at 6:07 p.m.)

ABSENT: Paul Winslow

STAFF: Debbie Abele, HPO
Don Meserve
Anthony Floyd

Also Present: Beverly Hart, Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above.

Chair Wimmer welcomed Ruth Bahri from the company that is now taking minutes, A-V/Tronics.

MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2005

Chair Wimmer requested corrections to the April 14, 2005, meeting minutes. There being no corrections, Commissioner Hartz made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2005 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Howard and passed unanimously, 6-0.

GREEN BUILDING PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Mr. Anthony Floyd, Planning and Development Services Department, spoke about the City's Green Building Program and handed out material. The program is primarily residential and is intended to be relevant for living in our desert environment. Components include expedited plan review for builders, willingness to work with alternative/innovative materials, a lecture series, and public information brochures for construction companies and homebuyers.

The Department is now working on a remodeling document. A draft copy of the document was passed around. This document will cover sample remodeling projects including kitchen, bath,

energy, landscaping, and room additions. Important considerations are the efficient use of space and using passive cooling strategies around the outside of the home, like planting shade trees in strategic locations. Inside the home it is important to use products that generate a minimum of harmful gasses, to consider solar or photovoltaic energy as a power source, and to look at plumbing options that reduce water use.

Vice-Chair Gonzales commented that homebuyers now have an awareness of these issues. The Commission wants to get the message out that homes in historic districts can be preserved while the homes can still be modernized and made more energy efficient.

Commissioner Dallett commented that Scottsdale needs to take a different approach than older cities and asked whether Mr. Floyd was aware of any other cities that have a green building program associated with historic preservation. He replied that there is a project in Chicago by Mayor Daley involving historic bungalows.

Chair Wimmer remarked that Scottsdale has an opportunity to pioneer environmentally friendly neighborhood preservation and that the community supports this.

Commissioner Hartz asked Mr. Floyd whether his department had done any work on green remodeling specifically for ranch style homes. Mr. Floyd said that there are many simple measures that can improve the energy efficiency of a ranch home without changing the original roofline or footprint.

There was a discussion about how the Commission can work together with the Green Building Program to help homeowners and also correct any misperceptions in the community. It was agreed to have further joint meetings to look into this, and staff was directed to explore how the Green Building Program can be incorporated into the Historic Preservation Program.

JUNE 7TH COUNCIL HEARING ON NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORIC DISTRICTS – TOWN AND COUNTRY SCOTTSDALE AND VILLAGE GROVE 1-6

Ms. Abele said that staff is working on the presentation to be made at the City Council hearing. Mr. Meserve reported that following the Planning Commission vote recommending against the neighborhood historic districts, some Town and Country Scottsdale residents conducted their own survey of the neighborhood and determined that most people were in support of the designation, with only one person stating he was opposed to it. Ms. Abele said that there is now a buzz in both neighborhoods and that residents understand that they need to express their point of view.

Chair Wimmer reported that Mayor Mary Manross has suggested a joint meeting between the HPC and the Planning Commission in November once they have finished considering the pending General Plan amendments. Commissioners Howard and Hartz reported that they had contacted individual Council members in connection with the neighborhood historic districts.

The Commission discussed how to encourage public participation in the process. Since neighborhood residents may not be used to attending public hearings it is important to let them know they can fill out comment cards even if they do not wish to speak at the hearing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Outreach Committee

Commissioner Hartz reported that about 80 people had attended the Community Outreach Committee's walking tour on Saturday morning, May 7th, and that it had been a great success with requests from those who attended to make this a regular event. He thanked Mr. Meserve for his hard work and recognized the other two tour guides, JoAnn Handley and Joan Fudala. There was a suggestion made to update the current Scottsdale Historical Society walking tour brochure. His remarks were echoed by Vice-Chair Gonzales, who said that this was a good opportunity to show the public what the Commission has done with their tax dollars.

The Commission discussed the possibility of co-sponsoring a program on archaeology with the McDowell Sonoran Land Trust during McDowell Sonoran Month. The first or second Wednesday of October 2005 were suggested as possible event dates. Co-sponsoring would give access to MSLT's contacts of interested individuals to increase participation.

Historic Register Committee

Commissioner Howard reported that the Historic Register Committee is working on putting together a Taliesin West Boundary sub-committee and that seven people, including architects have expressed an interest in participating. Mr. Doug Sydnor, architect has agreed to serve when in town. Ms. Abele added that they are hoping to get together within the next month.

HPO/STAFF REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Abele reported that a new intern has started working on Scottsdale's activities. Jill Horohoe is a doctoral candidate in public history with experience in research and writing. She is currently working 20 hours a week. In the fall, Ms. Horohoe will be replaced as intern by Mr. Ian Johnson.

Ms. Abele reminded Commissioners that the next regular meeting scheduled for the second Thursday in June will not take place because it conflicts with the state conference in Tucson, which three members of the Commission are attending. The next meeting will take place on June 23rd. It is hoped that the Taliesin West Boundary sub-committee will have met prior to this. Mr. Ryden, architect is scheduled to attend this meeting to present the draft Preservation Guidelines for Village Grove 1-6 for review.

There will be no meeting in July. On August 25th, a training session is scheduled which will cover the basics of rehabilitation. It is hoped that for the September 8, 2005 meeting a recommendation from the subcommittee on a proposed boundary for the Taliesin West Historic District will be ready and the Commission will be in a position to initiate the designation process.

Ms. Abele recommended getting Mr. Floyd's input in discussions over the summer in order to incorporate elements of the Green Building Program into the Commission's preservation guidelines for homeowners in historic districts.

Chair Wimmer remarked that there may be other funding sources for environmentally friendly demonstration rehabilitation projects, and asked Mr. Meserve to follow this up with Mr. Floyd.

Staff are updating the list of Fifth Avenue property owners and are planning to meet with them within the next 60 days to see what their current positions are on being designated a historic district.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice-Chair Gonzales announced that although he had applied to be reappointed to the Commission, he had later learned that an archeologist had also applied. Since it is a priority to have an archeologist as a Commission member, and after Cathy Johnson's term expired, the Commission was without an archaeologist. Mr. Gonzales had decided to withdraw his application from Council consideration. Chair Wimmer expressed his appreciation for Mr. Gonzales's contributions to the Commission and said that he was sorry to see him leave. Mr. Meserve told the Commission that the appointment is on the May 17th City Council agenda and would take effect immediately.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Beverly Hart, Co-acting Administrator for the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation addressed the Commission. She assured the Commission that the Foundation is anxious to cooperate with the Commission as it considers the designation of Taliesin West on the Scottsdale Historic Register. She outlined some of the initiatives the Foundation is taking to ensure the preservation of Taliesin West. Chair Wimmer thanked Ms. Hart for sharing this information with the Commission.

FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

There will be no meeting on the fourth Thursday of May. The next meeting, as announced by Ms. Abele, is scheduled for June 23, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Submitted by:

Ruth Bahri
A-V/Tronics